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510 South Vermont Avenue • Room 230 • Los Angeles • CA 90020-1975

(213) 738-2981

October 18, 2016

The Honorable Board of Directors County of Los Angeles Regional Park and Open Space District 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Directors:

**ADOPTED** 

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

4-P October 18, 2016

LORI GLASGOW EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ALLOCATE SPECIFIED EXCESS FUNDS
AVAILABLE TO THE FIFTH SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT
AND AUTHORIZE AWARD AND ADMINISTRATION OF
GRANTS FOR VARIOUS PROJECTS
(SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 5) (3 VOTES)

#### **SUBJECT**

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$5,010,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, for grants to the grantees and projects listed herein.

# IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:

- 1. Find the proposed projects categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act for the reasons stated herein and the reasons reflected in the records of the projects.
- 2. Allocate an amount not to exceed \$5,010,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996, to the grantees and projects listed herein.
- 3. Authorize the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation, in his capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District, to award grants when applicable conditions have been met, and to administer the grants as of the date of award and pursuant to guidelines in the Procedural Guide for Specified, Per Parcel, and Excess Funds Projects; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account.

### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

Approval of the recommended actions will allocate an amount not to exceed \$5,010,000 in Specified Excess Funds, available to the Fifth Supervisorial District pursuant to the Los Angeles County Safe Neighborhood Parks Proposition of 1996 (1996 Proposition), to fund various projects as follows:

Arboretum Foundation – Reid-Baldwin Adobe General Improvements Project - \$1,700,000

The proposed Reid-Baldwin Adobe General Improvements Project involves general improvements to the historic Reid-Baldwin Adobe at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden, including the repair of existing adobe walls, roof structure, and modification of pathways, paving, directional signs, and other site amenities. The total estimated project cost is \$1,700,000 and will be fully funded with the recommended grant.

County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) – Crescenta Valley Park General Improvements Project - \$500,000

The proposed Crescenta Valley Park General Improvements Project involves general improvements to the existing Crescenta Valley Community Regional Park, including the rehabilitation of restrooms and other related park amenities. The total estimated project cost is \$500,000 and will be fully funded with the recommended grant.

DPR – Farnsworth Park General Improvements Project – \$2,000,000

The proposed Farnsworth Park General Improvements Project involves general improvements at Farnsworth Park, including improvements to interior and exterior of the community building and baseball field and renovation of shade structure and horseshoe area. DPR will raise additional funds as needed to supplement the recommended grant and complete the project.

City of La Verne – La Verne Wilderness Area General Improvements Project - \$500,000

The proposed La Verne Wilderness General Improvements Area Project involves general improvements to the La Verne Wilderness Area, including site preparation, construction of a loop trail and debris barriers, and the native plant landscaping. The total estimated project cost is \$1,100,000. The City of La Verne will raise additional funds to supplement the recommended grant. City of Burbank – McCambridge Park War Memorial Rehabilitation Project - \$200,000

The proposed McCambridge Park War Memorial Project involves rehabilitation of the existing War Memorial at McCambridge Park. The total estimated project cost is \$220,000. The recommended Specified Excess Funds will be supplemented by \$20,000 from the Burbank Veterans Committee and City of Burbank General Fund.

City of San Gabriel – Vincent Lugo Park General Improvements Project - \$110,000

The proposed Vincent Lugo Park General Improvements Project involves general improvements at Vincent Lugo Park, including the development of a play area and the installation of fitness equipment at the park. The total estimated project cost is \$365,000. The recommended Specified Funds will be supplemented by \$236,000 in City of San Gabriel Development Impact Funds and a \$19,000 Greenfields Outdoor Fitness Grant.

It is also recommended that the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (Director), in his

capacity as Director of the Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD), be authorized to award grants for the identified grantees when applicable conditions have been met; otherwise, funds shall remain in the Excess Funds account. Applicable conditions include grantee qualifications, consistency between the project and requirements of the 1996 Proposition, as well as grantee agreement with California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements for the projects. It is further recommended that the Director be authorized to administer the grant under procedures previously approved by the Board.

# **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The proposed recommendations further the Board-approved County Strategic Plan Goals of Operational Effectiveness/Fiscal Sustainability (Goal 1) and Community Support and Responsiveness (Goal 2) by providing grant funds to enhance healthy activities in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

Sufficient appropriation for the grant, in an amount not to exceed \$5,010,000, is budgeted in the RPOSD's Excess Project Funds, HD6.

#### FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The 1996 Proposition requires that agencies to which funds were allocated under the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996 encumber all such funds prior to receiving grants of Excess Funds. Each of the identified grantees meets this requirement.

The 1996 Proposition provides a method for determining, each fiscal year, the amount of funds available in the following fiscal year to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the amounts specifically identified for projects in the Safe Neighborhood Parks Propositions of 1992 and 1996. The recommended grant will be funded from the Excess Funds available to the Fifth Supervisorial District for Specified Projects.

The Board may establish additional conditions on grants of Excess Funds. The Director will be authorized to award grants when all applicable conditions have been met. Any funds allocated by the Board, but not encumbered by award of a grant contract in the same fiscal year, shall be available for allocation by the Board in the following fiscal year. Additionally, each grantee is obligated to secure any and all additional funding required to complete its respective project as a condition of the grant Project Agreement.

On June 2, 2009, the Board approved the Procedural Guide to govern the administration of RPOSD grants. The Procedural Guide will appropriately govern the administration of the recommended grants as well.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

All public agency projects funded by RPOSD are required to comply with CEQA as a condition of the grant. The lead agency is responsible for preparing the appropriate environmental documentation for the project. The County of Los Angeles is the lead agency for the Reid-Baldwin Adobe General Improvements Project, Crescenta Valley Park General Improvements Project, and Farnsworth Park General Improvements Project. The City of La Verne is the lead agency for the La Verne Wilderness

Area General Improvements Project. The City of Burbank is the lead agency for the McCambridge Park War Memorial Rehabilitation Project. The City of San Gabriel is the lead agency for the Vincent Lugo Park General Improvements Project.

The proposed Reid-Baldwin Adobe General Improvements Project at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of the repair of existing adobe walls, roof structure, and modification of pathways, paving, directional sign and other site amenities, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(d), 15304 (a) and 15331 of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1 (c) and 4 (a) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures and facilities; minor alterations to the land; and the rehabilitation of historical resources consistent with the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for the Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring and Reconstructing Historic Buildings (1995) Weeks and Grimmer. The proposed project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed project's records.

The proposed Crescenta Valley Park General Improvements Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of rehabilitation of restrooms and other related park amenities, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15301(d) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities or mechanical equipment to meet current standards of public health and safety.

The proposed Farnsworth Park General Improvements Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of improvements to the interior and exterior of the Davies Building, baseball field improvements, shade structure renovation and horseshoe area renovation, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15301 (d) and 15331 of the State CEQA Guidelines, and Class 1 (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves restoration or rehabilitation of deteriorated or damaged structures, facilities, or mechanical equipment at an existing facility. As part of the proposed project, a historic resources consultant will be hired to determine the potential for cultural resources at the park. The assessment is anticipated to be complete prior to the commencement of the proposed project. To the extent that the structures included in the proposed project are determined to have historic significance, implementation of the project will ensure that the refurbishment activities are carried out consistent with Section 15331 of the State CEQA Guidelines. which requires that work on historic structures, including repair, rehabilitation, and restoration, be completed in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties with Guidelines for Preserving, Rehabilitating, Restoring & Reconstructing Historic Buildings (1995).

The proposed La Verne Wilderness Area General Improvements Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of the construction of a loop trail, debris barriers and the removal of existing facilities, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Sections 15301(I)(4), 15303 (e) and 15304 (a) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Classes 1 (h)(4), 3 (b) and 4 (b) of the

County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves demolition of existing accessory structures; construction of small new structures; and minor alterations to the land. The proposed project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed project's records.

The proposed McCambridge Park War Memorial Rehabilitation Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of renovation of the War Memorial, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15301(d) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 1 (c) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves restoration and repair of an existing structure.

The proposed Vincent Lugo Park General Improvements Project is categorically exempt from CEQA. The project, which consists of development of a play area and the installation of fitness equipment at the park, is within certain classes of projects that have been determined not to have a significant effect on the environment in that it meets the criteria set forth in Section 15303 (e) of the State CEQA Guidelines and Class 3 (b) of the County's Environmental Document Reporting Procedures and Guidelines, Appendix G, because the project involves construction of small new structures. The proposed project will not involve the removal of healthy, mature, and scenic trees. Additionally, the proposed project is not in a sensitive environment, and there are no cumulative impacts, unusual circumstances, or other limiting factors that would make the exemption inapplicable based on the proposed project's records.

## **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

A Project Agreement will be entered into and administered under authority delegated to the Director and pursuant to the Procedural Guide approved by the Board in 2009 only if all applicable conditions of the grant have been met. The Project Agreement will be approved as to form by County Counsel.

# **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The recommended actions will have no impact on any other projects funded by RPOSD. The recommended projects will promote healthy activities in public spaces in the Fifth Supervisorial District.

#### CONCLUSION

Please instruct the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board to return one adopted copy of this action to the Chief Executive Office, Capital Programs Division, and one to the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN WICKER

Director

JW:JB:WRO:tb

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel

Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors